

INTRODUCTION TO PEYOTE

Well, it was back in '27. I was young then. Took a notion just one afternoon, it was about 4 or 5 miles away from home. My father, I took my father that evening, and they took him, I thought I'd see what's going on. I walked from my home up to that place, and when I got over there, well, the ceremony's already started and I stayed outside. Far as I know all the people that was inside, ah...most of my uncle's they was speaking at, this time this happened. This old man was conducting that meeting.

(Who was conducting the meeting?)

That was Joe Black Bear. This old man, he take care of the drum. Clarence Star, he was a fireman. Most of my uncle's asked me, this old man, uncle who came up when he came out asked me if I wanted (he come after wood) to come in, and I, that's where I started. That was back in '27. Didn't know too much about it. That was the first time I went. Uh...like regularly every chance I get, which is when I ain't got nothing else to do. But in '29, and '30, that's when I really start. One every week, maybe twice a month.

(Where was these meetings held?)

Well, ah..it's we have, ah..we have people, they believe in our Idnian ways. This Native American Church is one thing come in in the early days by another tribe, that spoke the same language we did. When they came here, well this fellow made friends. It's my understanding that's the way I heard it, he made into our tribe.

ACQUISITION OF PEYOTE FROM THE LIPAN